

**SUMMARY
FRAFS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 17, 2014**



Board Room A
Executive Airport Plaza,
Richmond, BC
1:00 p.m. start

A. PARTICIPANTS

- Ken Malloway (Chair)
- Thomas Alexis
- Gord Sterritt
- Howie Wright
- Terri Bonnet
- Pete Nicklin
- Mike Staley
- Adrian Wall
- Neil Todd
- Walter Quinlan (Meeting Notes)

By phone

- Ernie Victor
- Ernie Crey
- Dana Bellis

B. AGENDA ITEMS

Roll call, review, adjust, and accept the agenda

1. Old business:
 - 2.1) Notes from the previous meeting
 - 2.2) Action items from the previous meeting

(Continued next page)

**SUMMARY
FRAFS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 17, 2014**

B. AGENDA

1. Roll call, review, adjust, and accept the agenda
2. Old business:
 - Notes from the previous meeting
 - Action items from the previous meeting
3. CSPI
4. FRSSI
5. Budget Expenditures: Update and Report
6. Expenditure planning for the remainder of this fiscal year
7. Begin work planning for the 2014/15 fiscal year
8. JTWG Update
9. Visions conference: date and objective
10. Bill Shepert: northern observer at the March Forum
11. Stó:lō Resource Centre Communications

C. DISCUSSIONS

1. Roll call / Agenda

- Attendance noted as listed under “Participants.”
- After review and adjustments, the agenda was finalized and accepted

2. Old Business

2.1) Notes from the previous meeting were updated and approved.

2.2) Action Items from the previous meeting were updated and approved.

Continued next page

SUMMARY
FRAFS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 17, 2014

3. CSPI

It was reported that at the February CSPI workshop that “First Nations were getting lost in the process.” There are two key concerns:

- The use of questionnaires by ESSA was causing a gap between the technical committees (harvest and habitat planning) and the Steering committee. “Because of the shortage of time and resources, ESSA has relied on questionnaires. There has been no opportunity for dialogue; it has been one-way.”
- Invited participants (ex.: the recreational sector) have been lobbying in Ottawa. This is outside of the scientific and technical point-of-view, and the TOR, of the CSPI.

A decision had been made that Questionnaires (Survey) are off the table for the next CSPI meeting. It was recommended that the sub-committees (the “middle layer” of the CSPI org chart) must be more involved.

Looking ahead: It’s important that within in the next 1 ½ months to demand a Work Plan. We need to get traction from this process soon. Questions for the FRAFS EC to consider:

- What are the steps to take over the next fiscal year?
- What needs to be done?
- What can be done?

There was a recommendation that a letter from the FRAFS Chair to the CSPI reminding of the TOR and the purpose of this initiative.

Q: How do changes to the Fisheries Act impact CSPI?

Response: Re: CSAS. The only sites being considered with respect to the Wild Salmon Policy are those which have had fish in them for the last three generations. It remains to be seen: whether these sites will be protected under the Act.

Q: Can I get a list of those sites where fish returned over the last three years?

A: The list will be available in the near future and I’ll try to get a copy to you (FRAFS Biologist).

Q: Is this related to the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) report on the assessment of salmon?

A: The department is the custodian of data and this is part of an effort to provide ‘useful’ data (i.e. a data summary, as opposed to a database of raw data).

A concern: “Stocks that have been gone for generations, but then return. Are they expendable? Do you just write them off?” The FRAFS biologist responded: It’s only sites that are included in the assessment that are attached to habitat protection. He also shared his concern is that “all that’s left is a number in the database. There isn’t an explanation of how the data was filtered. As well, many staff have retired and there’re no available observations.

Continued next page

SUMMARY
FRAFS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 17, 2014

CSPI continued

Q to DFO: Will we ever have access to NUSEDs?

A: The DFO rep replied that he didn't have the background on this. It was suggested that NUSEDs could only be accessed through the DFO intranet: you can ask for summaries and you can get raw data on specific tributaries.

A further concern was raised that BC16 report data uploaded to NUSEDs contained no information about the filters on the data and why. "Why do we have to build a database when a database already exists?" he asked. It was noted by DFO that we should "look for a collaborative approach."

Action Item # 1: Draft a letter from the FRAFS EC Chair to the CSPI reminding them of the TOR and purpose of the CSPI.

Action Item # 2: Develop a Work Plan over the next 1 1/2 months. (A small group of the SPC was suggested, but this would have to be done in conjunction with the Ops Manager and the FRAFS work plan).

Action Item # 3: Send the list of sites where fish returned over the last three years

4. FRSSI

The EC member from DFO learned on Friday, February 14th that DFO can't attend the Tier 2 FRISSI meeting proposed for March 18th in Kamloops. However, the department still wants to get out and discuss and receive feedback from First Nations, and stakeholders.

After some discussion, the Chair proposed part of Day 1 of the March 19-21 Forum as a Tier 2 FRISSI session. All agreed and it would be followed up with the Forum Planning Committee.

There will be a Tier 3 session in Richmond on Monday, March 17th.

5. Finances / Work Plan

The discussion covered Agenda items 5 through 7.

The Operations Manager led the EC through an item by item review of the current status of, as well as projections to year end for, expenditures.

The Ops Manager was asked to update DFO on the amount of funds available for the next two Forums re: travel support for First Nations. He also asked: should there be parameters for determining travel support?

**SUMMARY
FRAFS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 17, 2014**

Finances/Work Plan continued

Discussion generated the following Action Items:

Action Item # 4: The FRAFS EC scheduled a 2014-15 Work Plan teleconference for March 3rd, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Action Item # 5: Ops Manager will send a draft Schedule 5 to the EC for the March 3 teleconference.

Action Item # 6: Ops Manager will follow up with EC members to get all expense claims in by the end of February as this will have an impact on planning for March.

8. JTWG Update

- Getting the last of the coded wire tag and mortality rates information. The Co-chairs will be referring the issue to the FRAFS EC
- The letter sent from the FRAFS Chairperson to DFO following the January Forum included a number of items to include in presentations and discussions at the February Forum.
- Question that the JTWG has for DFO: Why is the marine survival rate for Chilco (below average) and Cultus Lake (average) so different?
- There will be a JTWG meeting on March 18th at the Holiday Inn North Shore, Kamloops.

9. Visions conference

As previously agreed by DFO and the FRAFS EC, the Visions conference is postponed to 2014-15 fiscal. There was discussion about when to hold it and who would host it?

One potential issue: the impact of radiation, originating from Japan, on salmon. Perhaps the First Nations Health Authority could be involved as part of a “panel of experts to answer people’s questions and concerns. Another idea: the conference might cover a broader range of contaminants that salmon have to contend with.

The EC has to decide if we want to have a Visions conference, and, when. The FRAFS EC was reminded that they had previously discussed a conference on southern BC Chinook.

This Agenda item was tabled to the March 3rd Work Plan teleconference.

**SUMMARY
FRAFS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 17, 2014**

10. Northern observer at the March Forum

As per the request of the FNFC rep, there'll be an observer from northwest coastal area at the March Forum.

11. Stó:lō Resource Centre (SRC): communications

The SRC has excellent video production facilities and a staff person available. Q: Would any work include the FRAFS Communications Coordinator? "Absolutely."

Action Item #7: Bring a sample video to the next FRAFS EC.

Summary of Motions

None presented.

Summary of Action Items

Re: CSPI

Action Item # 1: Draft a letter from the FRAFS EC Chair to the CSPI reminding them of the TOR and purpose of the CSPI.

Action Item # 2: Develop a Work Plan over the next 1 1/2 months. (It was suggested a small group of the SPC, but this would have to be done in conjunction with the Ops Manager and the FRAFS work plan).

Action Item # 3: Send the list of sites where fish returned over the last three years.

Re: Finances / Work Plan

Action Item # 4: The FRAFS EC scheduled a 2014-15 Work Plan teleconference for March 3rd, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Action Item # 5: Ops Manager will send a draft Schedule 5 to the EC for the March 3 teleconference.

Action Item # 6: Ops Manager will follow up with EC members to get all expense claims in by the end of February as they will have an impact on planning for March.

Re: Stó:lō communications

Action Item #7: Bring a sample video to the next FRAFS EC.